

Forestry News



Fall 2010

"We Protect and Develop Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources for Virginians."

Carl Garrison, State Forester

Janet Muncy, Editor

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Riparian Buffer Program in Hanover and Caroline Counties

Matt Coleman, forester, Caroline County, Eastern Region

During the course of four days over a period of two weeks in April, 1,500 6th graders converged upon the banks of the North Anna River at the Meadow Event Park, home of the Virginia State Fair. This program, a Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience, enabled the children to gain hands-on experience with identifying species of trees and other plants that are native to riparian areas and to learn how the buffers help to protect water quality. While on a walking trail established on the Caroline County bank of the North Anna, Hanover County forester David Terwilliger led group discussions about how watersheds connect and how activities in this area affect the Chesapeake Bay. Issues, such as erosion, slope, buffer width and nearby land uses, were identified. Kathleen Ogilvy, Hanover technician, and Matthew Coleman, Caroline forester, assisted with talking points and instructing on the proper use of dichotomous keys. The students kept journals of the visit to the riparian buffer station, as well as their stops at a macroinvertebrates station, a water quality station, a wildlife fieldnotes station and a wetlands station. The Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience was a cooperative effort among VDOF, Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District, and Caroline and Hanover County Public Schools. Others participating included the EPA, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Co-op Extension Service, Caroline County Planning Department, Hanover Master Gardeners and Naturalists and NRCS. This event is scheduled twice a year to allow all 6th graders in the two counties to participate.



Turck and Garrison Win National Awards

Associate Director of Resource Protection Fred Turck and State Forester Carl Garrison were honored recently for their exemplary work during ceremonies at the National Association of State Foresters' conference in Orlando.

Turck earned a Golden Smokey – the highest honor bestowed by the USDA Forest Service – for outstanding wildfire prevention service over at least a two-year period that is national in scope. Turck, who is responsible for fire prevention and education at the VDOF, was recognized for “outstanding service in the prevention of human-caused wildfires and increasing public recognition and awareness of the need for continuing wildfire prevention efforts.” (With the addition of the Golden Smokey to his prior Silver Smokey and Bronze Smokey awards, Fred becomes only the third person in the world and the second Virginian to be so honored since the awards began in 1957.)

Turck said, “This award is quite humbling as I never do what I do for any fame or glory. I do this in the hope that even a single wildfire can be prevented and no lives, personal property or our natural resources are jeopardized.

“There are a lot of people I need to thank for the award, the first of whom is my wife. Without her support, I wouldn't be able to do this important work. I also extend my appreciation to the VDOF for giving me the opportunity to do a job I love doing.”



Garrison received the American Tree Farm System's 2010 Sustained Excellence Award. The award recognizes Garrison for “providing outstanding support and collaboration to private forest landowners in forest conservation efforts.” (There are more than 375,000 private forest landowners in Virginia.)

Garrison said, “It is such a great honor to be singled out from among so many natural resource professionals from across the nation. The award is a real tribute to all the men and women of the Virginia Department of Forestry who give 100 percent everyday in service to the citizens of the Commonwealth. And I'm most grateful to the good people at the American Tree Farm System for their recognition.”

Virginia Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry Todd Haymore said, “I've always said that the Commonwealth has some of the best workers in America, and the recognition of these fine employees of the Virginia Department of Forestry by two national organizations confirms that. I'm extremely proud of the work Carl and Fred do for our citizens, and I congratulate them on their national honors.”

Farrell Receives Honor

Submitted by Rob Suydam and Mike Santucci, conservation specialists, Forestland Conservation Division

One of the Virginia Department of Forestry's (VDOF) own, Rob Farrell, has received the 2010 Gerald P. McCarthy Award for Conservation Leadership in the Public Sector. He was presented the recognition at the Fourth Annual Virginia Land Conservation Conference on May 12th in Williamsburg, Va.

The McCarthy award is a high honor within the conservation community. Rob was honored for his efforts in front of an audience of more than 100 members of Virginia's land conservation community. He was recognized for his vision in leading the development of VDOF's easement program – the only one in the state that focuses on conserving the working forestland base.

The award distinguishes Rob's efforts to build a holistic conservation program anchored in interagency collaboration and cooperation. Further, Rob's efforts have gone a long way in dispelling misconceptions about forest management and harvesting long held by our interagency partners, and brought sound forest management into the spotlight of the conservation community.

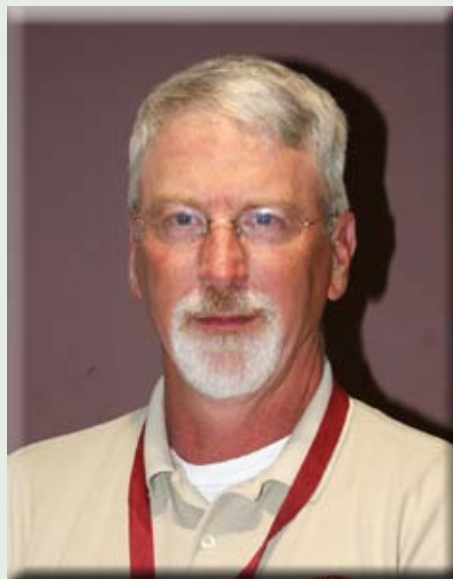


Receiving this well-deserved award not only acknowledges Rob's vision and leadership, but it indicates the great amount of respect and high esteem in which the conservation community regards the VDOF conservation efforts.

Mohler Receives Community Service Award

Chris Thomsen, assistant regional forester, Western Region

Kenny Mohler, Rockbridge County technician, was this year's recipient of the National Wild Turkey Federation Community Service Award. Kenny received this award at the Rockbridge Chapter Meeting held in April at the Washington and Lee Room in front of 300 outdoors supporters. The award recognizes "individuals who dedicate their lives to help with development, improvement, and overall well-being of our community." In addition, those in attendance raised \$25,000 to assist with NWTF activities in their local area. Congratulations, Kenny, for a well-deserved honor!



Bear Creek Lake State Park 70th Anniversary

Erik Filep, recreation forester, state forests

On Saturday, May 15, 2010, Bear Creek Lake State Park held its 70th Anniversary Celebration and Trail Dedication. Justin Barnes and I were on hand to help promote Virginia's State Forests and to bring Smokey Bear's message of fire prevention to the youth in attendance. Approximately 150 visitors cycled through the park to visit with vendors, go on guided hikes, and hear State Parks Director Joe Elton, Cumberland Board of Supervisors Chairman Tim Kennell, Del. Watkins Abbitt and Secretary of Natural Resources Doug Domenech give speeches at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a newly renovated trail system. Many people commented about how their families have been coming to Bear Creek Lake State Park and Cumberland State Forest for many years and what a wonderful resource we have!



From left to right: Delegate Watt Abbitt, 59th District, Virginia House of Delegates; Tim Kennell, Chairman, Cumberland County Board of Supervisors; Smokey Bear; Patty Elton, President, Friends of Bear Creek Lake State Park; Joe Elton, State Parks Director; Doug Domenech, Secretary of Natural Resources

Smokey's Checking Out Nursing Homes

By Gwynn Tyler, technician, Buckingham County, Central Region

Smokey is getting up in years and he recently started checking out our local nursing home facilities. Actually the nursing home calls us each year to participate in its annual wheelchair parade. The home gets the residents out for a little parade down the street in Dillwyn. Never underestimate Smokey's ability to bring a smile to every face!



PROJECT PLANT IT!

VDOF and Dominion's Project Plant It! Make Spring Special for Students

Caroline Skelly, Project Plant It! Coordinator, Dominion

The Virginia Department of Forestry partnered with Dominion Virginia Power's Project Plant It! program again in 2010 to give hundreds of students in Central Virginia a memorable nature lesson.

In early April, third-graders at Curtis Elementary in Chester, Va., were treated to a special forester presentation by Lisa Deaton, the VDOF's forestry education specialist. Lisa helped the children identify all the materials in their daily lives that come from trees and also engaged them in an activity to act out the life cycle of a tree.



Lisa Deaton teaches students about the life cycle of a tree.

Judging from the energy in the gym and the smiles on the participants' faces, the event at Curtis Elementary was a "tree-mendous" success. "It's so rewarding to get involved with the students and to see their enthusiasm while learning about the environment," said Deaton. "They love hearing that they will get their own tree seedling at the conclusion of the Project Plant It! program."

Brian Lacey, a VDOF forester, spent Arbor Day at historic Lee Memorial Park in Petersburg planting with 350 third-graders from the city's public school system. Along with several soldiers from Fort Lee and other community volunteers,



Brian Lacey planted saplings and taught students how to care for trees.

Brian helped students plant five southern red oak saplings and taught them how to care for the trees.

"Project Plant It! is a wonderful partnership among Dominion, Petersburg City Public Schools, Petersburg Parks & Recreation Department, the Virginia Department of Forestry, Fort Lee and the Willcox Watershed Conservancy," said Cliff Davis, public information officer for Petersburg City Public Schools. "In addition to planting a tree in honor of U.S. military troops, students learned more about the connections of the park to the Civil War and the civil rights movement. It was a fantastic outdoor experience!"

In addition, there was a strong VDOF presence on Arbor Day at Hidden Rock Park in Goochland County. Almost 200 students enjoyed a morning of learning about trees and the environment by rotating through several activity stations, including a presentation by VDOF forester Chuck Wright, along with John Carroll of the Christmas Tree Growers organization, and Ryne Conley, who doubled as crowd-favorite Smokey Bear.

Project Plant It! is an environmental education program developed by Dominion to educate children and plant trees. This year, more than 30,000 third-grade students in six states were enrolled in the program. More than 75 acres of new forestland would be created if all 30,000 seedlings are planted. Information about Project Plant It!, including lesson plans, additional games and activities about trees, and videos about planting and caring for trees are available at www.projectplantit.com.

Radford Army Ammunition Plant Completes First Prescribed Burn

Jon Willoughby, technician, Botetourt and Roanoke counties

Virginia Department of Forestry helped Radford Army Ammunition Plant with its first prescribed burn April 1, 2010. It was a 16-acre block. The United States Army owns the property, and Len Diloia Jr. is the natural resource specialist and newly-trained burn manager on the Army staff who requested our assistance. He also helped with the burn. Denny McCarthy, Brad Wright, David Richert and Jon Willoughby, along with Virginia Tech students led by Shep Zedaker, helped complete the burn for the plant. Now an idle field, this tract once supported a Loblolly Pine Plantation that was clear cut in 2002. This was the first prescribed burn RFAAP has ever done. The objectives for the burn were to maintain grassland ecosystems improving habitat for wildlife; reduce fuel loads, and to control invasive species. With the assistance of VDOF, RFAAP hopes to build a prescribed burn program.



Western Region Meets at the Tunnel

Matthew Spencer, technician, Alleghany, Bath and Highland counties, Western Region

The Western Region conducted its regional spring meeting at Natural Tunnel State Park, located in Scott County, May 3-4, 2010. For several employees, including myself, it was our first voyage to far southwestern Virginia, and the trip didn't disappoint. Meetings and meals were held in an impressively constructed lodge, complete with vaulted ceilings, exposed beams and spacious porches complemented with rocking chairs.

The first day of the meeting included CPR training held by Russell Proctor, an EMT and certified CPR instructor. Russell's class was very beneficial, as the Red Cross seems to change CPR procedures every couple of years. In addition to CPR training, Steve Counts delivered a case study on a USFS engine accident, and Ed Stoots discussed the Forest Legacy Program.

After our spaghetti dinner, the majority of the group met outside the lodge for a guided tour of the Natural Tunnel. After a very steep descent, the tunnel revealed itself in the bottom of the gorge. It was created millions of years ago when twin sink holes, approximately 800 feet apart, fell into the earth, allowing ground water containing carbonic acid to leach from one hole to the other; resulting in the erosion of limestone bedrock. The results were impressive! The tunnel is now host to a Norfolk Southern rail line, and around 10 trains a day pass through the tunnel. For those interested, Wayne Perfater made it back up the ridge without the use of oxygen or the assistance of a Sherpa!

The final day was packed with speakers on various topics, such as VGEA and selling programs. A panel discussion was also moderated by Chris Sullivan on tips for successful salesmanship. The panel consisted of VDOF employees, as well as a guest from industry. The panel discussion set the stage for Connie Rhoton, a flamboyant presenter, who discussed communication skills. Connie's quick wit and interaction with the group kept the audience engaged and entertained. The bulk of the program consisted of exercises that made the majority of us feel a little less intelligent than we may have assumed! The exercises were designed to test our listening skills and challenge the way we communicate with others. Her program was very entertaining and

all learned ways to make ourselves better communicators. Service awards were presented by Ed Stoots and John Carroll, and to complete the day, John Miller discussed woodland home communities and Dean Cumbia spoke on forest management.

Organization of facilities and meals

was handled by Matt Kimbler, technician for Scott County, who did an excellent job! Minus a slight discrepancy with a water main, the regional meeting was a success and afforded employees fellowship, valuable information and scenic beauty!



New Kent Gathering

Dennis Gaston, forester, Eastern State Forests

New Kent Forestry Center played host to the first officially unofficial agencywide social gathering thanks to the organizational efforts of Kelli Craddock, accountant at Headquarters, and Donnie Davis, Accomack County technician. The event was a resounding success by all accounts.

It was pulled off under the guise of having a voluntary workday at the Forestry Center. The guise turned out to be a full-court press on completing projects that had been sitting in stand-by mode for lack of time and manpower.

A total of 36 people descended on the Center on May 6, 2010 power washing buildings, weeding gardens, spreading nearly 25 yards of mulch, completing building projects and demolition projects, planting trees, marking boundary lines and other odd jobs. A two-inch caliper red oak tree was planted in honor of John Graff, who worked with VDOF from 1949- 1990 serving as both the Fire Chief and the Management Chief.

All attacked their assigned tasks with energy and enthusiasm. The work is greatly appreciated. New Kent Forestry Center is home to the Conference Center that has been in operation for four years. Most VDOF employees have had an opportunity to go through a class or a meeting at the Conference Center during that time. It is also the site of the Virginia Forestry Education Center, which is under development. The "gathering" gave both a kick in the pants on maintenance projects.

After the smoke from the work cleared, there was lots of food to eat, prepared by Tommy Nunnally, Dinwiddie County technician, and Gregg Farrish, B&G carpenter. Percy Ayers, housekeeping supervisor at Headquarters, provided the tunes and then

some rousing games of horseshoes and cornhole erupted in the wake of dinner. Charlie Knoeller, Westmoreland County forester, emerged as the champion of horseshoes and nobody could touch Eric Filep as he rose to the level of king in cornhole.

Some people stayed in the Conference Center lodging while others camped out on the grounds. Those few who could stir early in the morning took advantage of the beautiful Chickahominy River and its bounty of fish. Others just took time to shake the cobwebs out of their heads, but either way, the weather was gorgeous for any activity on both Thursday and Friday.

Let's hope this can become an annual event that rotates around the state. It was well worth the effort.



Forestry Employee Gives Back! Mission Next Door Program Makes a Difference In Lives

Ken Mohler, technician, Rockbridge County

This is the fourth year of our Mission Next Door (MND) program in Rockbridge County, and we have taken on 10 projects so far. For the past four years, area churches have done home repairs for people who are financially or physically unable to take care of these needs themselves. Some projects are as small as putting in a wheelchair ramp; others are much larger. Each year, a church will pick one very large project and eight other churches will help to complete. Up until this year, our church, Bethesda Presbyterian, has taken on these larger projects. We will work as many as 700 hours on a home putting on a new roof, windows, vinyl siding and remodeling the inside as well. Last year, we raised \$14,000 to help fund the MND program.

This year, we started a new program working with Habitat for Humanity and Mission Next Door. They supplied a loan to a very needy family to be repaid at the rate of \$25/month, and we did most of the work for free. The homeowner must also put in 40 hours of work time as well. We call this new program ReHabitat and had help from all eight churches with 51 volunteers as young as 10 years old work for 40 days to complete the house. This home had a big hole in the roof for the last few years and all the inside walls and most of the floor had to be taken out and replaced. We also put in a new heat and air system for the gentleman of 91 years young. His daughter had to stop working to be home taking care of him, so his grandson also lives there to help to make the payments.

We had a home dedication event August 29 and a house-warming party afterwards for all those who helped. As you can see from the photo, it was a very moving and a wonderful day of fellowship.

Why not see if you can do something in your area to help someone in need?



Before



After



Helping those in need is indeed a moving experience.

Southwest Virginia Wildland Fire Academy

Adam Cumpston, forester, Russell County

The 2010 Southwest Virginia Wildland Fire Academy was held September 8 - 12 at Hungry Mother State Park in Marion, Va. The academy was a success in training firefighters in various aspects of wildland fire. Courses offered at the academy this year included S-130/S-190/I-100 Firefighter Training/Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior/Introduction to Incident Command System; S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaw Operation; S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface, and S-022 Mountain Tractor Training. The Mountain Tractor course was held a couple weeks after the other courses in Big Stone Gap. All of the courses offered had good attendance with 23 students in S-130/S-190/I-100; 15 students in S-212; 29 students in S-215, and 20 students in S-022. In addition to classroom learning, all of the classes had the opportunity to get some hands-on experience inside the park. This hands-on experience is critical for suppression activities, such as fireline construction, chainsaw operations and tractor operations.

Students in the academy came from all over Virginia to participate. A variety of agencies were represented by students and instructors, including the Virginia Department of Forestry; USDA Forest Service; Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; National Park Service, and many local fire departments. Non-local students and instructors lodged at the cabins in the park. The staff at the park also provided three meals a day for students and instructors. The Virginia Department of Forestry, through a fire preparedness grant received from the National Fire Plan, paid for the lodging and meal expenses for fire department personnel and Virginia Fire Crew members. Thanks to John Miller and his staff for covering supplies and costs, providing instructors, and everybody who helped with planning for making the academy a success.

Karen Stanley, Virginia Department of Forestry
Lexington, Virginia

October 5, 2010

Dear Karen:

I am writing on behalf of the Coordinating Committee that has served over the past year to form a new chapter of Virginia Master Naturalists in Rockbridge County. We are grateful to the local VDOF office for serving as the chapter's sponsoring agency, but we are particularly indebted to you for the considerable time and guidance you have contributed personally as a member of our committee; assisting in the chapter's formation, and serving as its first adviser.

In just a year, our fledgling organization has successfully developed and delivered a training curriculum customized for Rockbridge, combining more than 40 hours of classroom and field study. You contributed to the design of the curriculum; helped recruit trainees; and were among the corps of expert lecturers who presented classes and accompanied students in the field. As chapter adviser, you set up our bank account; submitted our paperwork to the state program; applied for grants to establish chapter scholarships and a resource library; created and maintained an online network for Chapter communications, and were present at almost every committee meeting, training class and field excursion. You were more than our Adviser—you were one of our most active organizers.

This month, 20 new Virginia Master Naturalists will graduate from the Rockbridge Chapter, and a slate of officers will be elected at our first annual meeting. These extraordinary accomplishments have been possible, in no small measure, to your personal efforts. We can't thank you enough!

With gratitude and appreciation,

Bonnie Bernstein
Rockbridge Master Naturalists Coordinating Committee

Structure Protection Training

Derek Keiser, technician, Amherst County

On a hot June Saturday morning, members of the Amherst County Strike Team gathered at the Lynchburg Fire Training Facility. Their assignment – scout out division D; assess the situation, and protect the structures along the division. Soon trucks were moving and hoses were being pulled and water pumped. Sixteen members attended the Structure Protection Training to learn and apply their skills on how to protect homes and structures in the wildland interface.

The training was run just like an actual incident. When members arrived that morning, they were given a briefing and an assignment and were left to figure everything out themselves. Members had to organize a division supervisor and engine bosses among the group. They then had to evaluate structures and set up a protection plan, along with establishing a water resource all while the “Murphy’s Law” scenarios were going on.

Bill Perry was the acting IC along with David Powell as safety officer; Derek Keiser was operations, and Adam Smith filled the role of division supervisor.

The day was very productive with members familiarizing themselves with the engine and hummers. They learned hose lays and how to establish effective water resources. They also learned how to establish LCES and maintain a safe working environment.

We wrapped up at the end of the day conducting an after-action review (AAR), which was very productive. A lot of good points and lessons were brought up. Overall, the day turned out to be a great learning and training event.



The team gets organized for the “incident.”



The team deploys resources.



Amherst County Strike Team

Human Resource News

Welcome

Robert Boles is our new technician for Buchanan County in the Western Region. He has bachelor's degrees in environmental science and geography from Emory and Henry College. Robby comes to us from Hurt and Proffitt Inc., where he worked as a field survey technician.

Melanie Seigler is our new information systems director. She holds a bachelor's degree in geography from the University of Vermont. She is coming to us from VDOT, where she was a GIS program manager.

Movers & Shakers

Effective October 1, **Nelson Shaw**, area forester for Albemarle County in the Central Region, transferred into the staff forester position for the Central Region.

New Arrivals

Brad Wright, wage fire mitigation specialist in the Pulaski area, and his wife welcomed a daughter to their family. Analise Faith was born October 1 weighing 8 pounds, 15 ounces. Congratulations!

Sandy Mills, program support technician for the Resource Protection Division, has a new grandson. Breslin

Alexander McNeil-Via was born September 30 weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces. His parents are Mike and Ashley McNeil-Via and his great aunt is **Donna Hoy**, administrative staff specialist in the State Forester's office. All are doing well!

Bill Perry, forester for Amherst County in the Central Region, and wife, Ricki, welcomed a new daughter to their family. Sadie Louise was born May 5 weighing 9 pounds, 3 ounces. All are doing great!

Patti Nylander, forester for Augusta County in the Central Region, and her husband, Erik, welcomed a baby daughter, Emma, to their family May 17 weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces. Emma, mom, dad and big brother Jacob are all doing great!

Adam Smith, technician for Campbell County in the Central Region, and his wife, Tracy, are the proud parents of a baby boy. Barrett Reid was born April 27 weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Barrett, dad, mom and big sister, Ella, are all doing great!

Keith Brown, radio specialist in the General Services Division, and wife, Katie, welcomed a new daughter to their family. Alli Carissa arrived June 4 weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Mom, dad, big sister, Maddi, big

brother, Carson, and baby Alli are doing well.

Travis Rivers, forester for Franklin County in the Western Region, and wife, Cheryl, welcomed a new son to their family. Preston Wesley was born June 3 weighing 8 pounds, 13 ounces. Mom, dad and baby are doing great!

Jason Upton, technician for Greensville County in the Eastern Region, and Jessica welcomed a baby girl to their family. JaLynn Victoria was born May 20 weighing 5 pounds, 6 ounces. Mom, dad, baby JaLynn, and big brother, Jackson, are all doing great. Congratulations to the whole family!

Bill Lakel, water quality programs manager in the Forest Resource Management Division, and wife, Holly, welcomed a new addition to their family. Johnathan Evan was born June 10 weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces. Congratulations to Bill and Holly on Johnathan's birth!

Jim Jarvis, forester for Campbell County in the Central Region, and wife, Missy, welcomed a daughter to their family. Camden Johanna arrived September 4 weighing 8 pounds, 13 ounces. Baby Camden, big brother, J.J., mom and dad are all doing great.

Congratulations to the whole family!

Congratulations!

Adam Cumpston, forester for Russell County in the Western Region, and Shawna Counts were married June 12.

Justin Funk, technician for Cumberland County in the Central Region, and Melissa Mahoney were married September 25.

Ed Furlow, acting forester for Orange County in the Central Region, and Jenny McKeithan were married June 5.

Ryne Conley, technician for Louisa County in the Central Region, and Caitlin O'Callaghan were married June 26.

Farewell

Judy Okay, riparian specialist in the Forest Resource Management Division, is retiring after 11 years of service. For the past five years, Judy has been on a special assignment with the USDA Forest Service working on the Chesapeake Bay project. Prior to that, she served as the area forester for Fairfax County in the Central Region. Judy will retire effective October 31.

Mike Stoneburner, senior carpenter in the General Services Division, has

Human Resource News

decided to hang up his tool belt and retire. Mike has been a member of the building and grounds crew for 37 years. He has worked on numerous projects for the agency, including the New Kent Conference Center. Mike will retire effective December 31.

Wayne Bowman, research forester in the Forest Resource Management Division, is retiring effective December 31 after 35 years of dedicated service.

Donnie Jamerson, research technician in the Forest Resource Management Division, is retiring effective December 31 after almost 27 years of dedicated service.

David Jones, technician for Wythe County in the Western Region, is retiring effective December 31 after 22 years of dedicated service.

Condolences

Bill Lakel, water quality programs manager in the Forest Resource Management Division, on the loss of his grandfather in September.

Brad Carico and wife, Jana, on the loss of Jana's father in September. Jana was our program support technician in Abingdon before marrying our water quality engineer, Brad, and relocating. Jana's

father, Sylvester Taylor, was 75 years old and retired from the Department of Environmental Quality.

Johnny Sparks, a local VDOF warden for more than 25 years, passed away in September. Two of Johnny's sons, Alvie and Mikey, still help us fight fire.

Gwynn Tyler, forester for Buckingham County in the Central Region, lost his father, **Bill Tyler**. Bill Tyler started with the Department of Forestry on August 1, 1951 as a forester and retired June 30, 1985 as a district forester in Waverly.

John Wright, forester for Bath County in the Western Region, lost his father June

4. Albert Johnson Wright was 81 years old.

Matt Spencer, technician for Alleghany County in the Western Region, lost his grandmother June 7.

Retiree **Randall Parris'** mother died in May. Randall was the regional forester for old Region 6.

Charlie Becker, marketing and utilization specialist in the Forestland Conservation Division, lost his stepfather, Reginald F. (Jeff) Jeffrey, who passed away June 13 at the age of 90.

Edward "Woody" Washington lost his battle with cancer June 24. Woody worked at New Kent Forestry Center beginning part

time in March 1970. His position became full time in January 1979, and he retired February 2010.

John Vance Jackson Jr., 85, of Farmville, former employee of the Virginia Division of Forestry for 25 years, died May 20, after a short illness at the age of 85. He served in the US Army and was stationed in Germany during World War II. He graduated from North Carolina State University with a degree in forest management in 1952.

Retiree **Chuck Hutsell's** wife, Jan, passed away May 4 after a battle with cancer. Chuck is the former regional forester for old Region 5.

James B. Jarratt

By Fred Turck, Resource Protection Division

J.B. worked out of the Waverly Office for many years and worked his last few years with VDOF at the Garland Gray Nursery; he retired in 1990. J.B. was truly an "old-time" warden. He focused his career on fighting fires; doing Smokey programs, and planting trees. He was a part of the community, not just an employee of the Forestry Division. Nelson Hillyer and Jim Blackwell represented the Honor Guard and did their usual good job. There were several arrangements that were mostly pine tags and pine cones, including a very large casket spray. A little Smokey Bear was part of another arrangement, and the picture shown here shows a very loving use of Smokey Rulers one of JB's family members used in its creation. Several current employees and retirees attended the funeral – just another indication of how well thought of he was and how strong the VDOF connection is even after 20 or more years beyond retirement.



Forestry News

Fall 2010



Happy Birthday

Keith P. Brown ~ 1/5 (HQ)
 Edwina B. Blalock ~ 1/7 (HQ)
 Phil T. Grimm ~ 1/7 (Ret.)
 Richard K. Steensma ~ 1/12 (ER)
 James Timberlake ~ 1/12 (Ret.)
 Jon A. Willoughby ~ 1/13 (WR)
 Janet R. Muncy ~ 1/14 (HQ)
 Thomas W. Zaebst ~ 1/14 (SF)
 Neal T. Oberholtzer ~ 1/15 (CR)
 T. Kem Pace ~ 1/15 (WR)
 Sandra K. Stephens ~ 1/15 (CR)
 Mary L. Mead ~ 1/16 (Ret.)
 John A. Brooks ~ 1/17 (ER)
 Todd A. Kready ~ 1/17 (WR)
 Matthew Coleman ~ 1/19 (ER)
 Alan T. Sutherlin ~ 1/19 (ER)
 Alan D. Craft ~ 1/20 (Ret.)
 Kirby A. Woolfolk ~ 1/20 (CR)
 Rita D. Moore ~ 1/21 (HQ)
 Donald R. Jamerson ~ 1/22 (HQ)
 Trent G. Badgley ~ 1/24 (HQ)
 David H. Terwilliger ~ 1/25 (ER)
 Terrance J. Lasher ~ 1/26 (CR)
 E. Edward Stoots ~ 1/28 (WR)
 Rodger L. Moyers ~ 1/29 (CR)
 D. David Snyder ~ 1/30 (CR)
 Carolyn S. Morris ~ 1/31 (Ret.)
 David J. Houttekier ~ 2/1 (ER)
 Ricky A. Butler ~ 2/2 (CR)
 Joseph P. Hancock ~ 2/2 (Ret.)
 John W. Campbell ~ 2/4 (HQ)
 William A. Lakel ~ 2/4 (HQ)
 Alexander J. Stace ~ 2/4 (CR)
 A. John Wright ~ 2/7 (WR)
 Christopher Clayton ~ 2/8 (CR)
 Janet W. Barr ~ 2/9 (Ret.)
 Justin M. Dillon ~ 2/9 (WR)
 Roger C. Roberts ~ 2/9 (Ret.)
 B. Blair Dalton ~ 2/12 (CR)
 Edward L. Embrey ~ 2/15 (Ret.)
 John D. Miller ~ 2/16 (HQ)
 James W. Cox ~ 2/20 (ER)
 William Saunders ~ 2/21 (Ret.)

Barbara White ~ 2/22 (HQ)
 Robert Kennedy ~ 2/24 (Ret.)
 William Miller ~ 2/24 (WR)
 Martha Warring ~ 2/26 (CR)
 Jason A. Braunstein ~ 2/27 (HQ)
 C. Kenneth Doss ~ 2/28 (WR)
 Douglas E. Audley ~ 2/29 (CR)
 Bradley W. Carico ~ 3/1 (WR)
 Lisa R. Deaton ~ 3/2 (HQ)
 Dwight H. Stallard ~ 3/2 (FC)
 Jay S. Bassett ~ 3/3 (ER)
 Gregory P. O'Donnell ~ 3/3 (HQ)
 Mary H. Frazier ~ 3/5 (HQ)
 Cynthia M. Bronner ~ 3/6 (ER)
 Phyllis F. Carruthers ~ 3/6 (Ret.)
 Karen E. Stanley ~ 3/6 (WR)
 John W. Kauffman ~ 3/7 (CR)
 John R. Talbert ~ 3/8 (CR)
 Larry N. Wood ~ 3/9 (ER)
 Bryant A. Bays ~ 3/10 (CR)
 James W. Harris ~ 3/10 (Ret.)
 Gary A. Heiser ~ 3/12 (SF)
 Kathleen A. Ogilvy ~ 3/12 (ER)
 G. Shannon Lewis ~ 3/13 (CR)
 Harold A. Fisher ~ 3/14 (CR)
 Rodney W. Keenon ~ 3/14 (Ret.)
 Richard D. Reuse ~ 3/15 (ER)
 Todd A. Groh ~ 3/18 (HQ)
 Deborah M. Howe ~ 3/18 (HQ)
 Bruce D. Harmon ~ 3/19 (CR)
 James A. Pugh ~ 3/19 (HQ)
 David E. Queen ~ 3/21 (HQ)
 Richard Holman ~ 3/23 (SF)
 Michael C. Womack ~ 3/29 (SF)
 Rodney T. Newlin ~ 3/31 (CR)
 W. Houston Roberts ~ 3/31 (CR)
 Wayne L. Perfater ~ 4/1 (WR)
 James C. Bowling ~ 4/3 (CR)
 Lawrence M. Dunn ~ 4/3 (Ret.)
 Orville L. Long ~ 4/4 (Ret.)
 Gale B. Washburn ~ 4/4 (CR)
 Kristina D. Woodie ~ 4/4 (HQ)
 Paul M. Reier ~ 4/5 (ER)
 Carl B. Belew ~ 4/9 (HQ)
 William R. Ruby ~ 4/9 (Ret.)
 Harry C. Midkiff ~ 4/11 (Ret.)
 Zachary H. Dowling ~ 4/13 (ER)
 Joseph L. Lehnen ~ 4/15 (CR)
 Chad S. Lykins ~ 4/16 (HQ)
 David A. Milby ~ 4/16 (ER)

Zachary H. Olinger ~ 4/19 (SF)
 David W. Richert ~ 4/20 (WR)
 Brian E. Irvine ~ 4/21 (ER)
 John H. Pemberton ~ 4/21 (HQ)
 Frank J. Brubaker ~ 4/22 (Ret.)
 Steven Counts ~ 4/25 (WR)
 Richard A. Gravley ~ 4/25 (CR)
 Kenneth W. Mohler ~ 4/27 (WR)
 Donald W. Garman ~ 4/29 (WR)
 Justin M. Barnes ~ 5/1 (CR)
 Charles W. Becker ~ 5/1 (HQ)
 Gregory H. Winston ~ 5/2 (Ret.)
 Percy W. Ayers ~ 5/3 (HQ)
 Robert S. Boles ~ 5/3 (WR)
 Donna S. Hoy ~ 5/3 (HQ)
 Robert C. Suydam ~ 5/3 (ER)
 Jerre L. Creighton ~ 5/4 (HQ)
 Stanley F. Warner ~ 5/8 (Ret.)
 Bernard A. Brooks ~ 5/10 (CR)
 Paul F. Revell ~ 5/10 (HQ)
 Travis H. Rivers ~ 5/10 (WR)
 Christopher Asaro ~ 5/12 (HQ)
 Kelli B. Craddock ~ 5/12 (HQ)
 James H. Guess ~ 5/14 (Ret.)
 Lynwood P. Rogers ~ 5/16 (HQ)
 Arthur G. Cox ~ 5/19 (Ret.)
 C. Russell Proctor ~ 5/19 (WR)
 Dean P. Cumbia ~ 5/20 (HQ)
 Derek O. Keiser ~ 5/20 (CR)
 C. William Bruffey ~ 5/22 (HQ)
 Dennis Anderson ~ 5/24 (WR)
 Larry W. Layman ~ 5/24 (Ret.)
 Jessica A. Carroll ~ 5/28 (HQ)
 Amy M. Ricotta ~ 5/29 (HQ)
 William Braford ~ 5/30 (Ret.)
 Richard H. Miles ~ 5/31 (Ret.)
 Rebecca L. Woodson ~ 6/1 (HQ)
 Deborah B. Luna ~ 6/2 (HQ)
 Donald M. Davis ~ 6/5 (ER)
 Mary Gay Altizer ~ 6/7 (WR)
 Richard L. Starnes ~ 6/7 (Ret.)
 Justin B. Hancock ~ 6/9 (ER)
 Donald L. Parrott ~ 6/10 (Ret.)
 Joseph C. Street ~ 6/11 (HQ)
 Margaret Carpenter ~ 6/12 (HQ)
 David L. Stone ~ 6/12 (CR)
 Adam C. Smith ~ 6/14 (CR)
 Frank N. Wood ~ 6/14 (Ret.)
 B. David Edwards ~ 6/15 (WR)
 Bryan P. Alexander ~ 6/16 (ER)
 Gerald R. Crowell ~ 6/16 (CR)

Vanessa B. Blick ~ 6/20 (FC)
 Dennis R. Vaughan ~ 6/24 (CR)
 James C. Clark ~ 6/25 (Ret.)
 David B. Powell ~ 6/25 (CR)
 Brenda H. Taylor ~ 6/26 (HQ)
 Preston E. Trower ~ 6/26 (Ret.)
 Larry R. Willis ~ 6/26 (Ret.)
 Larry R. Winston ~ 6/26 (Ret.)
 Samuel R. Barkley ~ 6/27 (Ret.)
 James N. Ebbert ~ 6/28 (Ret.)
 Todd A. Edgerton ~ 6/28 (HQ)
 James R. Gering ~ 6/28 (Ret.)
 Edward P. Furlow ~ 6/30 (CR)
 David W. Slack ~ 6/30 (ER)
 Robert M. Thurman ~ 6/30 (WR)
 Susan P. Tennant ~ 7/3 (CR)
 Donald J. Giegerich ~ 7/6 (CR)
 Robert W. Farrell ~ 7/7 (HQ)
 Kevin W. Keith ~ 7/8 (WR)
 Joshua D. McLaughlin ~ 7/9 (FC)
 William B. Hall ~ 7/11 (CR)
 Stephen L. Morris ~ 7/13 (CR)
 A. Kenneth Thomas ~ 7/13 (WR)
 Kenneth E. Sterner ~ 7/14 (ER)
 Dennis C. Gaston ~ 7/15 (SF)
 Paul B. Geyer ~ 7/15 (Ret.)
 James W. Jarvis ~ 7/15 (CR)
 Adam D. Cumpston ~ 7/16 (WR)
 William Shumaker ~ 7/17 (SF)
 Michael T. Salyer ~ 7/19 (WR)
 David E. Jones ~ 7/20 (WR)
 Chris Sullivan ~ 7/20 (WR)
 Junius Miles ~ 7/21 (SF)
 Anne M. Skalski ~ 7/22 (HQ)
 James M. McGlone ~ 7/23 (CR)
 D. Drew Arnn ~ 7/25 (CR)
 Philip N. Carpenter ~ 7/25 (HQ)
 Tammy C. Ingle ~ 7/26 (SF)
 Nelson D. Jarvis ~ 7/27 (ER)
 Sandra G. Mills ~ 7/28 (HQ)
 Chris Thomsen ~ 7/30 (WR)
 Joseph D. Rossetti ~ 8/3 (CR)
 Jimmy R. Steele ~ 8/6 (Ret.)
 Charlie M. Yopp ~ 8/6 (WR)
 Jerry W. Bailey ~ 8/10 (Ret.)
 Leonard L. Tennant ~ 8/10 (Ret.)
 J. Miller Adams ~ 8/12 (CR)
 Wanda H. Colvin ~ 8/12 (HQ)
 J. Richard Inge ~ 8/13 (Ret.)
 Brian P. Lacey ~ 8/14 (ER)
 Dennis R. McCarthy ~ 8/14 (WR)

Forestry News

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Larry W. Estes ~ 8/15 (FC)
 John E. Seaquist ~ 8/16 (Ret.)
 Charles L. Rammell ~ 8/18 (Ret.)
 William J. Butler ~ 8/19 (ER)
 Heather M. Dowling ~ 8/20 (ER)
 Scott G. Bachman ~ 8/21 (ER)
 Michael C. Aherron ~ 8/22 (ER)
 Debra Zimniewicz ~ 8/22 (WR)
 E. Pickett Upshaw ~ 8/23 (ER)
 Charles T. Wright ~ 8/23 (CR)
 Andrew C. Brown ~ 8/25 (CR)
 Thomas A. Snoddy ~ 8/26 (CR)
 Bradley W. Williams ~ 8/26 (HQ)
 Peter E. O'Brien ~ 8/27 (Ret.)
 Warren E. Coburn ~ 8/28 (ER)
 Avond M. Randolph ~ 9/1 (SF)
 Angela L. Conary ~ 9/2 (ER)
 Michael A. Santucci ~ 9/3 (CR)
 Earl Bobby Atkins ~ 9/4 (Ret.)
 William B. Neff ~ 9/5 (WR)
 David E. Bruce ~ 9/6 (HQ)
 Charlene O. Bardon ~ 9/7 (CR)
 James E. Bowen ~ 9/7 (Ret.)
 Judith A. Okay ~ 9/8 (HQ)
 Randy A. Short ~ 9/9 (WR)

Larry J. Cochran ~ 9/12 (Ret.)
 Calvin E. Ricks ~ 9/12 (Ret.)
 Antonia Noreika ~ 9/14 (ER)
 H. Gwynn Tyler ~ 9/14 (CR)
 Donald G. Drake ~ 9/16 (Ret.)
 Charles H. Knoeller ~ 9/16 (ER)
 Jason T. McGhee ~ 9/16 (WR)
 Carrington Newsome ~ 9/16 (Ret.)
 George T. Hendrick ~ 9/17 (HQ)
 Dirk D. Hillegass ~ 9/20 (CR)
 Robert Boeren ~ 9/21 (WR)
 Joseph Schaefer ~ 9/23 (HQ)
 Herbert Reynolds ~ 9/26 (CR)
 Harvey Darden ~ 9/27 (ER)
 Jeffrey W. Stout ~ 10/2 (HQ)
 June M. Flora ~ 10/3 (HQ)
 David W. Tolliver ~ 10/4 (WR)
 Neil A. Brooks ~ 10/5 (WR)
 Karen E. Snape ~ 10/5 (ER)
 Erik P. Filep ~ 10/6 (SF)
 Richard T. Thomas ~ 10/6 (HQ)
 William L. Apperson ~ 10/8 (ER)
 C. Brian Ledford ~ 10/8 (WR)
 William J. Shoup ~ 10/11 (ER)
 R. Randy Fleming ~ 10/12 (WR)
 J. Ryan Hewitt ~ 10/12 (HQ)
 Nelson J. Shaw ~ 10/12 (CR)
 Lewis E. Rhodes ~ 10/15 (CR)
 Chad D. Stover ~ 10/16 (CR)
 Timothy C. Tignor ~ 10/16 (Ret.)
 William Shockley ~ 10/17 (Ret.)

J. Bruce Edwards ~ 10/18 (ER)
 Thomas E. Harlan ~ 10/19 (ER)
 Robert K. Lewis ~ 10/19 (ER)
 Larry Mikkelsen ~ 10/19 (HQ)
 Steve E. Coleman ~ 10/22 (ER)
 Pamela J. Gibson ~ 10/23 (HQ)
 Mike Stoneburner ~ 10/24 (HQ)
 Dean Lowdermilk ~ 10/25 (FC)
 Thomas Nunnally ~ 10/25 (ER)
 Paul Stoneburner ~ 10/25 (CR)
 Frederick X. Turck ~ 10/30 (HQ)
 Vance L. Coffey ~ 11/1 (SF)
 Gregory S. Estoll ~ 11/1 (WR)
 Tony L. Taylor ~ 11/5 (HQ)
 Tracy D. McDonald ~ 11/7 (CR)
 Onesphore Bitoki ~ 11/10 (HQ)
 Gregory A. Farrish ~ 11/10 (HQ)
 Daniel C. Roberts ~ 11/10 (CR)
 Ryne D. Conley ~ 11/11 (CR)
 Thomas M. Jeffries ~ 11/11 (HQ)
 Jeffrey J. Darr ~ 11/12 (ER)
 T. Nelson Hillyer ~ 11/12 (ER)
 James W. Garner ~ 11/13 (Ret.)
 L. Gerald Shifflett ~ 11/18 (HQ)
 Matthew Poirot ~ 11/19 (HQ)
 Kevin S. Dawson ~ 11/20 (CR)
 Faye E. Difazio ~ 11/23 (HQ)
 Stuart L. Sours ~ 11/23 (WR)
 M. Ann Irving ~ 11/25 (Ret.)
 Matthew Spencer ~ 11/25 (WR)
 Bonnie Q. Ragland ~ 11/29 (HQ)
 James E. Cook ~ 11/30 (Ret.)
 Edward H. Zimmer ~ 11/30 (CR)

Thomas Pleasants ~ 12/1 (Ret.)
 Leslie C. Mace ~ 12/5 (CR)
 William B. Carlton ~ 12/6 (ER)
 Patricia F. Nylander ~ 12/7 (CR)
 Lewis F. Southard ~ 12/7 (Ret.)
 Robert W. Stempel ~ 12/9 (ER)
 Jason T. Upton ~ 12/9 (ER)
 John C. Hisghman ~ 12/11 (CR)
 Wayne F. Bowman ~ 12/12 (HQ)
 William E. Perry ~ 12/12 (CR)
 Justin E. Funk ~ 12/13 (CR)
 Donald L. Foster ~ 12/14 (Ret.)
 Jeffrey L. Hensley ~ 12/14 (HQ)
 James F. Wagner ~ 12/14 (Ret.)
 James H. Blackwell ~ 12/17 (ER)
 Daniel B. Fortune ~ 12/18 (HQ)
 Ronald S. Jenkins ~ 12/18 (HQ)
 David K. Nabers ~ 12/18 (HQ)
 Henry E. Womack ~ 12/21 (CR)
 Carl E. Garrison ~ 12/22 (HQ)
 Everette L. Kline ~ 12/22 (HQ)
 Brad Whittington ~ 12/23 (CR)
 James W. Bright ~ 12/24 (Ret.)
 W. Chad Austin ~ 12/26 (WR)
 Ellen R. Powell ~ 12/27 (HQ)
 Thomas Callahan ~ 12/28 (HQ)
 John M. Carroll ~ 12/30 (HQ)
 Thomas W. Reeves ~ 12/30 (CR)
 Walter Washington ~ 12/30 (Ret.)
 J. Riley Bruce ~ 12/31 (WR)
 Patrick M. Murphy ~ 12/31 (CR)

Submit articles to:

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